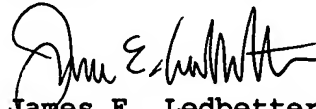


REMARKS

This Preliminary Amendment amends claims 1 through 6 for formalities and also eliminates the multiple dependent claim status of claims 5 and 6. These amendments are non-narrowing and no estoppel should be deemed to attach thereto.

Early and favorable consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



James E. Ledbetter  
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Date: July 7, 2004

JEL/spp

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